

# Railroad Gets Approval To Abandon Spur Line

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By J.J. JACKSON  
Herald Staff Writer

The Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad has been granted permission to abandon a rail line running from Thistle through Richfield to Marysville.

In granting the abandonment, administrative law judge Paul Cross acknowledged the abandonment will have adverse affects on the economy of Sanpete and Sevier Counties, but the abandonment was nonetheless warranted.

Arguments on the case were heard in April. Cross then weighed the evidence for more about 1½ months before ruling.

D&RGW attorney John Walker said his company was pleased with the decision. "We had argued that it would cost us \$15 million to restore the connection," he said.

The 104-mile spur was damaged by flooding behind the Thistle Mudslide in 1983 and has not been used since. D&RG argued there wasn't

enough business to warrant repairing the line.

"Even if we were able to assume all the traffic we had before (the mudslide), we'd still be losing lots of money," Walker said, "and it wasn't likely we'd get all those contracts back."

He estimated D&RGW would have lost \$500,000 to \$1 million per year attempting to run the line.

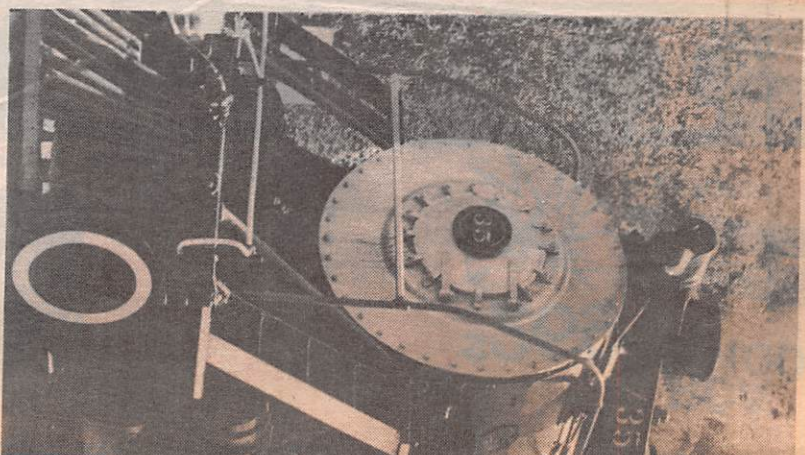
One company which had fought against the abandonment was Moroni Feed, which owns a large turkey plant and is the dominant industry in Sanpete County.

Joseph C. Nielson, owner of Moroni Feed, this morning said his company is considering building a loading facility, which would cost \$1.5 million, either in Spanish Fork or Nephi. Grain would then be shipped to the loading facility by train and to Moroni by truck.

1985 Taxes Overdue

0038344	03	OVH-1029-0-032-035	HAYDEN JEFFERY C & KATHRYN D	2076.42
0011762	06	OIE-3150-0-022-034	HAYNIE JANICE T & JOSEPH S	\$156.41
0006135	12	OPX-3020-0-021-037	HEAPS LARRY D & BRENT K	\$915.76
9000055	03	STA-0008-0-000-000	HEBER CREEPER INC	\$781.20
9000501	12	STA-0076-0-000-000	HEBER CREEPER INC	\$376.01
0073341	12	OWC-0184-0-035-025	HEBER LAND & CATTLE CO	\$554.23
0076898	12	OWC-0457-0-003-035	HEBER LAND & CATTLE CO TR	\$51.98

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